

thank God for this victory and for the beginning of a new era of peace.

Yet, seventy-five years later, we are still reminded of the true cost of that peace. Our current generation has also witnessed the sacrifice of American lives in the name of freedom. While our nation always attempts to protect American lives through any diplomatic tools available, human history reveals the sad reality that sometimes the liberty of all must be defended by a brave few. As Winston Churchill is often attributed as stating, "We sleep soundly in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would do us harm."

As a society, we must remember and educate our children to ensure that future generations never forget the heroes that saved our world from tyranny and destruction. Americans gather on V-J day to do just that: celebrate the greatest generation—those who came back home and those who laid down their lives on the field of battle.

With the utmost humility, I recognize and honor those who served in the Second World War throughout the Pacific Theater and beyond. It is the greatest honor to live in a country with such valiant men and women, much less to represent so many of them in Congress.

Victory over Japan Day is a necessary reminder of not only the enormous sacrifice and triumph of American warfighters over tyrannical empires, but ultimately, it exhibits the capacity of the American spirit to overcome all obstacles in order to complete the task at hand. I pray that we now, as Americans, face today's tests and trials with the same resolve, unity, and honor as those brave patriots who shed their blood from the beaches of Normandy to the islands of Okinawa. May we, too, find victory in our day.

HONORING RUBY MONTGOMERY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruby Montgomery.

"Mama Ruby has faith" . . . her faith enabled the love she has shared with others—others who have grown now share her faith and believe her acts of kindness to be pre-

cious gifts—gifts that touch people's hearts and are rooted right here in the Mississippi Delta.

In fact, Ruby Montgomery, described by her children as, "a dedicated child of God", is a woman who shapes the lives of others and continues to dedicate her life to serve her children and neighbors while being led by the Holy Spirit.

As we learned, it is Ruby's faith, her confident belief and trust in The Lord, which has kept her going all these years. In addition, her testimony reveals that even from a very young age, Ruby was taught to practice kindness and humility, two ideals her parents, the late Rev. Rollie Lee and teacher Daisy Bell Lee of Lambert, Mississippi, taught her well.

Ruby, the wife of the late TSGT William Henry Montgomery of Marks, Mississippi, who with her became proud parents of Deborah A. Simpson, Rhonda L. Montgomery, and Roderrick L. Montgomery. The pair also managed to care for their granddaughter, Tashunda Montgomery-Vaughn; great granddaughter, Ja'Brea Joiner; and four other grandchildren: Lacambrise, Ahbrae, Andre, and Desiree.

But did the couple stop there? Of course not. They also committed to raise five foster children: Linda, Shelia, Patricia, Pamela, and Stephanie. And as a result, she inherited several more grandchildren: Markus, Kim, Melanie, Teon, Nekeveonia, Herbert Jr., Altrevia, and Corderio. Onward, she inherited several more children: Joel, Anthony, Stephanie Reeder, Yolanda, Yameka, Lorraine, April, and their children. Now that is a big family and makes this author wonder just how Mama Ruby had time for anything else.

Questions come to mind: How does the first teacher teach in an integrated school system in Quitman County, raise dozens of kids, and go to work helping other children learn all day? Where did her energy and money come from when times were hard? Ruby credits The Lord.

People whose lives have been touched by Mama Ruby know that she is a person who can be trusted. She is seen by so many as an inspiration to those around her and a living example of how faith can impact the lives of those she has helped. Ruby is the person people come to with their problems, the one who comforts those in need, and the mother who cares for the sick in the body or in the spirit.

By making time to mentor countless of children in the community of Marks over the years, she unknowingly stepped into the per-

manent role of "Mama Ruby" for generation after generation, gaining the respect of the community and the trust of its members.

For example, as a teacher in the Quitman County public school system for over 40 years, retiring in 1993, Ruby gained the trust of her students, many of whom she opened the doors of her home to and also offered rides to church on Sunday. Many of these students grew up and had their own children, who were also taught by Ruby—allowing her to impact one generation after another.

However, the teaching did not stop in the classroom. In fact, at church, Ruby was also a teacher who shared the Bible with young minds. She serves as both a Sunday school and Bible study teacher. Even after teaching for over forty years, she does not tire of spending her energy toward young children's education. Education, as we all know, is not limited to just the classroom.

Ruby likes to educate teenagers as well. She and her husband always helped out the youth in the community who wished to work by hiring them to help around the store and teaching them the value of a dollar.

You would think with all of this teaching going on there would not be room for much else in Mama Ruby's life, but Ruby gives her time freely to community activities and outreach ministries. Ruby is currently serving as an active, committed, and dedicated member of Les-Grandes Soeurs Social Club of Lambert, Marks, and Crenshaw, Mississippi, as well as in Memphis, TN. Here she serves on the planning committee in Marks, MS. The purpose of Les-Grandes Soeurs Social Club is to serve as big sisters in time of need, to provide training, recreational, social, and cultural activities for the community, and provide educational support through scholarship. Mama Ruby is a board member of Trinity Community Center and the Quitman County Development Organization of Marks, MS. She also served as chairman for the 2019 Annual September Song Festival. These experiences are not all that make Ruby an amazing person. Ruby believes this path was chosen for her, not by her. By following this path, Ruby has excelled at every stage in her life. Mama Ruby "got faith" . . . faith found because of God's love for her is the love she has shared with others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ruby Montgomery for her dedication to serving her community and this great state.